The A. F. of L. Weekly News Service gives a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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WORKERS ARE DELUDED BY TRICKY EDUCATION

Washington, May 22.—The increase of so-called "workers' educational" services has caused President Green to issue a warning to trade unionists against these groups that would disguise isms and cults.

President Green states that the A. F. of L. has indorsed but one agency in the field of workers' education—the Workers' Education Bureau of America.

"Because of the power that lies in educational methods," said the A. F. of L. executive, "we can not be too careful in an examination of the various educational services that are being offered by groups that hope to disguise their propaganda as educational opportunities.

"The Workers' Education Bureau is financed by trade unions, and the A. F. of L. is directly represented on its executive committee. The publications of the bureau are passed upon by the executive committee, on which trade unionists serve.

"If you need educational material, research service or publications on labor problems, I wish to urge that you take up your needs with the A. F. of L. or with the Workers' Education Bureau at 476 West 24th street, New York.

"Misinformation is so subtly dangerous that it may undermine the foundations of unionism. Therefore, I wish to warn you against so-called labor educational agencies or publications and their material unless they have been first investigated by the A. F. of L. At the same time I urge your affiliation and support for the Workers' Education Bureau, which is performing a constructive, educational service for the American trade union movement."

TEAPOT DOME CASE BEFORE U. S. COURT

St. Paul, Minn., May 22.—The government has asked the Federal Court of Appeals to annul the Teapot Dome oil lease to the Sinclair interests, which was upheld last June by Federal District Judge Kennedy at Cheyenne.

The government charged Judge Kennedy had "started out with a slant of mind against the government" and that he forced the suit to trial before the government rounded up all its important evidence.

Actions of Albert B. Fall, then Secretary of the Interior, who negotiated the lease, and other principals in the transaction, "plainly constitute badges of fraud on the whole deal," said Owen J. Roberts, special government counsel.

"We were blocked in Judge Kennedy's court at every turn from showing the whole truth," said Mr. Roberts. "Milton Evenham, Fall's son-in-law, who delivered a fortune in Liberty bonds to Fall after the lease was made, was upheld by Judge Kennedy in refusing to answer our questions."

The government's counsel gave the names of prominent business men who left the country to evade being subpoenaed.

The Doheny interests that secured the Elks Hill oil lease from Fall have been defeated in a Los Angeles district court. This lease, while almost identical with Teapot Dome, was denounced as tinged with fraud by the Los Angeles court. The Dohenys have appealed to the United States Supreme Court.

NO COAL PRICE CUT DEALERS ANNOUNCE

Washington, May 22.—At the opening session of the Retail Coal Merchants' Association convention it was stated that there will be no reduction in coal prices this summer.

Spokesmen for the association from other cities defended Washington dealers against charges of profiteering and opposed any "meddling" by the government in this business.

No explanations were offered for maintaining present prices that were established during the anthracite strike. Wages for these workers were not increased, and a large number of West Virginia and Kentucky bituminous operators have broken their Jacksonville agreement with the union. This makes it possible to slash wages below the 1917 rate.

The public were led to believe that cheaper coal would result, but the contrary is the rule.

MUST SPEND $5,000

Washington, May 22.—Controller General McCarl has ruled that the government can not set aside $5,000 in a contract, because the law employs the words "shall expend."

In providing for the erection of a monument in Bardstown, Ky., congress directed that the Secretary of War "shall expend" $15,000. The department has received a satisfactory offer to erect the memorial for $10,000. The highest bid is $14,900. The controller general has ruled that the latter must be accepted. The department is asking what shall be done with the remaining $100.

CULINARY WORKERS GAIN

Spokane, Wash., May 22.—Organized culinary workers have secured signed contracts with more than half a hundred cafes and restaurants in this city.

NEW RETIREMENT BILL IS PASSED BY HOUSE

Washington, May 22.—The house has passed an amended federal retirement bill that raises the $750 annuity to $1,000 and increases employes' contributions to the fund from 2½ per cent of their salary to 3½ per cent. The changes introduced by Congressman Lehlbach, and favored by federal employes, called for a $1,200 annuity.

Opposition was recorded by members of the house before final vote on the amended measure, but Mr. Lehlbach warned his colleagues that this is the best that can be secured.

"I think I will be given credit for sincerity in my endeavor to secure adequate retirement legislation," he said. "I have agreed to pass the bill that is now before you because—knowing the situation in all its ramifications—I tell you frankly it is this or nothing."

Under the bill the general clerical force of the government may retire at 70 years. Mechanics, mail carriers, mail clerks and laborers may retire at 65. Railway mail clerks and those who have spent the greater part of their service in hazardous occupations, in the tropics or in extreme cold climate, may leave at 62.

POLICE CAN'T ASSIST ANTI-UNION BOSSES

San Francisco, May 22.—City officials refuse to loan policemen to guard and transport strike-breakers and the Industrial Association is angry. This organization would force carpenters to accept the anti-union shop, and the city is flooded with former convicts and thugs.

The board of supervisors instructed the chief of police to return policemen to their duties, instead of hanging around strike buildings and conveying strike-breakers in patrol wagons to and from their employment.

In their resolution, the association assumed the role of impersonious Caesar and ordered that a copy of their protest "be served" on city officials.

With fine sarcasm the union busters "publicly pledge ourselves to take any measures necessary to enforce the law and stamp out the wave of violence and crime."

The Board of Supervisors declared that the police force was partisan in a strike that labor officials have endeavored to keep peaceful.

families."

REGULATION BY LAW MAY INCLUDE FARMS

Washington, May 22.—Will the fruit and vegetable industry be the next to come under government regulation?

Senator Ferris calls attention to claims that the Department of Agriculture is about to establish that system.

This proposal, said Senator Ferris, is without lawful authority and if made effective will constitute the Department of Agriculture an agency of the federal government to regulate and supervise the business operations of this private industry.

He has introduced a resolution which would empower the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry to inquire into these claims and to instruct the Secretary of Agriculture to withhold the enforcement of this latest regulation by government.

SACCO LOSES APPEAL BEFORE STATE COURT

Boston, May 22.—The State Supreme Court has upheld the conviction of Nicola Sacco and Bartholomeo Vanzetti, who were convicted in July, 1921, of the murder the year before of a shoe company paymaster and guard in South Braintree. An appeal has been taken.

The case has attracted wide attention because of alleged trial irregularities, and the many alibi witnesses for the accused.

Two conventions of the A. F. of L. urged a new trial for the two men.

NEW ENGINES OF WAR

New York, May 22.—"The center of gravity now in disarmament has shifted in recent years," said Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, president of Columbia University, in an address in this city.

"We must now reflect on the problems of reduction not of armies and navies, but out of air forces and the resources and inventions of modern chemical industries," he said.

"Armies and navies are obviously military, but air forces and chemical industries are not. They are part of the organization and apparatus of modern industry, yet they may be transferred in a twinkling of the eye into the deadliest instruments of combat."

WHY EMPLOYERS OPPOSE TRADE UNIONISM

No wage increases and no reduction of working hours during 1925 is the jubilant report of the Anti-Union Shop Division of the American Newspaper Publishers' Association at their recent meeting in New York.

"In the final settlement the question of hours has been waived. Owing to the fact that the government's index figure of living expenses has shown a decrease during the year 1925, it has not been difficult to the publishers to show that there was no justice in asking for increases in wages."

While not intended to be read by workers, the report plainly indicates why employers oppose trade unionism.

With a refreshing absence of silly and emotional appeals about "free and independent workers," these employers frankly state that their system has made it impossible to raise wages or reduce hours.

Labor-saving machinery may be installed, but employes are denied any share in this increased efficiency, while rigid living standards are based on government statistics. If living costs increase, these employers may consider a wage increase, but the living standards must remain at a dead center.

Rarely are anti-union employers so bold in their reasons for opposing organized labor. As a rule, they suppress the truth with pleas for "independent workers" and other empty phrases.

Disarmament Conference In Session Divergent Views Held By Countries

Washington, May 22.—A score of countries are represented in the Preparatory Commission for the Disarmament Conference, now in session at Geneva, Switzerland.

Although called by the League of Nations, the conference is not a league body. The United States and Germany are represented, but both nations are outside the league. Russia refused to attend.

The present gathering of diplomats, economists and military authorities is not, strictly speaking, a disarmament conference, but is, as its name implies, preparatory. Its purpose is to agree on a disarmament program acceptable to the nations, which will then assemble to discuss the question.

Wide differences of opinion mark the Geneva meeting, and on its success depends a world-wide attempt to disarm. One group holds that disarmament should be based on actual military strength—armies, navies, air fleets and submarines.

Another group insists that a nation's potential powers of attack should be considered in a disarmament program. These include a nation's man power, its natural resources, such as oil and iron ore; its ability to manufacture war munitions because of superior industrial organization and its immunity from attack because of geographical location. This theory widens the discussion to almost unlimited boundaries, as it includes almost every feature of a nation's physical life.

The purpose of the Geneva "preparatory" conference is to reconcile these divergent views that a program may be presented to a world disarmament conference that will be called later.

PURE FOOD LAW IGNORED; WILEY TO REOPEN FIGHT

Washington, May 22.—The pure food law is violated and the people's health is jeopardized, according to Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, former chief of the Bureau of Chemistry.

"Violators have grown so bold because of the non-enforcement of the present law," he said, "that they have now introduced in congress bills to legalize adulteration. Today adulterants and coloring matter are being used illegally in foodstuffs. Because of the extent to which people eat preserved and prepared foods this condition is more than ever harmful."

PRISON REFORMER DIES

St. Petersburg, Fla., May 22.—George C. Osborne, well-known prison reform advocate, died here. He was 80 years old.

For 16 years he was warden of the New Jersey penitentiary. In that capacity he abolished the lock-step, instituted a parole system and made other radical changes in prison management.

OPPOSE FORCED LABOR

Washington, May 22.—Compulsory arbitration of mine disputes was opposed by Secretary of Commerce Hoover in urging the creation of a coal mediation board before a committee of the House of Representatives. He said that regulation of prices, profits and wages would not secure cheaper coal nor would it solve major questions in labor disputes, but would result in a score of worse evils.

"I do not believe that anything in the nature of compulsory arbitration is a remedy for failure of industrial relations," he said.

WEALTH INCREASES BUT NOT EDUCATION

Nashville, Tenn., May 22.—Stirred by the growth of illiteracy in this state, the Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs has started a campaign to assist the State Illiteracy Commission, appointed last year by the governor.

United States census reports show that Tennessee's rank in percentage of illiteracy in her native white citizenship increased from 41 in 1910 to 45 in 1920, while the state's rank in accumulated wealth rose from 30 to 22. During this period the state made no increase in its per capita expenditure for education.

HUGE MILK COMBINE CONTROLS NEW YORK

New York, May 22.—Investigations by health officials show that this city is in the grasp of a trust that dilutes milk, sets prices and awes dealers and farmers. Evidence was submitted that by mixing whole milk with skimmed milk 1,000,000 quarts of doctored milk are delivered to city institutions last year.

WIRE MEN SUSPEND WORK

Rock Island, Ill., May 22.—Electrical workers of this city and Moline and Davenport suspended work to enforce a $1.25 wage scale.

How to Stop Agitation

The only way to keep men from agitating against grievances is to remove the grievances. An unwillingness even to discuss these matters produces only dissatisfaction and gives comfort to the extreme elements of our country, which endeavor to stir up governments to embark upon a course of retaliation and repression. The seed of revolution is repression. The remedy for these things must not be negative in character. It must be constructive. It must comprehend the general interest. The real antidote for the unrest which manifests itself is not suppression, but a deep consideration of the wrongs that beset our national life and the application of a remedy.—Woodrow Wilson.

Federal Board Controls Railroads; Recent Ruling Extends Vast Power

Washington, May 22.—The Interstate Commerce Commission has increased its power over the nation's railroads by ruling that it has full authority to regulate the supply of trains for the transportation of "property." The decision was made in the case of a 26-mile branch of the Northern Pacific Railway. The company discontinued a daily freight service and established a tri-weekly service. The state of North Dakota, which intervened, held that it has sole jurisdiction of train service within the state. This the commission denied, and held that the tri-weekly service was not unjust or unlawful. The decision is the first of its kind.

The Supreme Court of the United States gave the commission wide powers over the railroads when it upheld the "recapture" clause of the Transportation Act. This clause provides that after profits of the railroads reach a certain amount, one-half of the excess shall be placed in a reserve fund to be maintained by each railroad, and one-half be placed in a revolving fund maintained by the Interstate Commerce Commission to aid weaker railroads.

Several of the larger railroads attacked the legality of this clause, which was upheld by the Supreme Court.

In a unanimous decision the court said:

"The Transportation Act puts the railroads of the country more completely than ever under the fostering guardianship and control of the commission, which is to supervise their issue of securities, their car supply and distribution, their joint use of terminals, their construction of old lines and by a proper division of joint rates, and by fixing adequate rates for interstate commerce, and in case of discrimination, for intrastate commerce, to secure a fair return upon the properties of the carriers engaged."

VIGILANT TEAMSTERS BLOCK BUREAUCRACY

Washington, May 22.—The Brotherhood of Teamsters, affiliated with the A. F. of L., has blocked a scheme to have the Interstate Commerce Commission set wages and hours for chauffeurs on trucks in interstate business.

Hearings on this senate bill were attended by representatives of the railroads, street car companies and motor bus operators. These favor the bill. The union and the Merchants' Truckmen's Bureau of New York opposed the plan.

The bill would put interstate trucking in the hands of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Any change in rates would have to be referred to the commission. If the commission believe them are sufficient trucks in any one section, all other truckers would be debarred from this business. State commissions would act with the federal commission, a situation that would bring friction.

"This bill is merely the entering wedge," said the unionists. "It is like the camel getting his nose inside the tent. It would eventually mean the setting up of wages, hours of labor, hours and wages of chauffeurs and helpers. If these commissions are going to determine fair rates they will eventually have to determine what are fair wages because rates are based on costs and part of the costs of transportation is labor."

BIRD LOVERS TRICKED BY SELFISH BUSINESS

Washington, May 22.—How tricky propagandists secure the passage of "joker" legislation was shown by Congressman LaGuardia in an expose of the American Game Protective Association. This organization alleges its purpose is to protect wild game. The New Yorker said its purpose is to encourage destruction of wild game and thus increase business of gun and ammunition manufacturers.

These "game conservationists" are urging the support of house bill No. 7470, known as the migratory bird bill, which is alleged to "furnish adequate protection to migratory birds."

The proposals make no reference to this "joker" in their bill: "And for the establishment of public shooting grounds to preserve the American system of free shooting, and for other purposes."

In urging support of this bill, genuine conservationists acknowledged to Congressman LaGuardia that they had not seen the bill which they enthusiastically supported.

The board of directors of the American Game Protective Association consists of 12 men, seven of whom are connected with gun and ammunition manufacturers. In appeals for support from this industry, President Burnham of the A. G. P. A. said:

"Game and fish are fast shooting in this country are in a mighty precarious situation and your business interests in that extent are at stake."

In another appeal for contributions, President Burnham said that this money would "return to the manufacturers of arms and ammunition a most substantial percentage on the investment."

"I am for the conservation of bird life," said Congressman LaGuardia, "but when I want advice on that subject I refuse to take it from a paid agent of ammunition and gun makers."

UNJUST CONDITIONS BRING UNITED LABOR

Toledo, Ohio, May 22.—"Organized labor is an effect, not a cause," said Dr. Horace Westwood, Unitarian minister, in discussing the recent British general strike.

The speaker said that England and all other industrial nations need a new sense of values. "There will be economic war and class strife as long as labor is regarded purely as an industrial commodity, to be bought and sold according to the law of supply and demand," he said.

"Our industrial civilization has tended to make men mere machines for the production of wealth and still more wealth. This is the disease which corrupts the heart of all civilization. We must learn, with Ruskin, that there is no wealth save life, and we shall have to regard industry and production not simply as a means for the creation of profits, but as a means of ministering to the fullness of life."

PRINTERS RAISE WAGES

Washington, May 22.—Increased wage award has brought substantial wage increases to newspaper printers in the nation's capital. A three-year contract raises day rates to $54 a week, or an increase of $7.50. Night rates are advanced to $60 a week, or $9.50 increase.

Price and one-half for night work by the hour is also granted. The award is retroactive to November 11, 1925, and printing workers will receive back pay that in many cases will amount to $400.

Hon. William Hitz, associate justice of the District of Columbia Supreme Court, was arbitrator. One publisher said the award was "the limit." They have asked the arbitrator to reopen the case on the ground that his award "will be disastrous to the industry."

This is a reversal of the employers' position during the hearings. At that time they took the position that "the ability to pay is not a point in this case."

ROOFERS MAKE GAINS

Cleveland, May 22.—Composition roofers have raised wages to $1.40 an hour for journeymen and $1.50 for foremen.

BREAD TRUST NOT SMASHED; WAS U. S. COURT TRICKED?

Madison, Wis., May 22.—Smashing the bread trust, recently announced by the Department of Justice, is a fake, says Senator La Follette, writing in La Follette's Magazine. He intimates that the court was imposed upon by public officials.

"On its face, the consent decree signed in the Baltimore Federal Court, appeared to be a victory for the people and against the efforts of William B. Ward and his associates to monopolize the nation's bread," said Senator La Follette.

"Through apparent collusion between the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission, which has recently become known, Ward is in a position to continue his monopoly, using the Continental Baking Corporation for that purpose.

"The Continental Baking Corporation, with 106 bakeries producing a billion loaves of bread annually, is the largest unit of the bread trust. It is alone large enough to dominate the entire baking industry of the United States. The Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission alike charged it with being a combination in restraint of trade, organized in violation of the Sherman and Clayton anti-trust laws. The hearings of the Federal Trade Commission developed substantial evidence in support of this charge.

"And yet, under section 13 of the consent decree in charge against the Continental Baking Corporation was dismissed on the ground that a similar charge was being prosecuted against the Continental by the Federal Trade Commission. The court must have been led to believe that the Federal Trade Commission would prosecute this case in good faith. Otherwise, no judge would have agreed to the dismissal of the charge.

"But the ink was not dry on the consent decree before the reactionary majority of the Federal Trade Commission abruptly stopped the hearings in the Continental case and dismissed the very complaint which had been the condition for the omission of the Continental from the court's decree.

"That act constituted an outrage upon the court and a deliberate betrayal of the public trust, which can not properly be characterized until the complete details have been revealed.

"I intend to go to the very bottom of this case and at another time present at length the extraordinary record and actions of the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission in relation to this case from its inception."

Federal Education and Example Would Save Lives In Industry

Washington, May 22.—Congressman Rathbone of Illinois has introduced a bill which would create a Division of Safety in the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.

It shall be the duty of such division to collect statistics of industrial accidents in all lines of employment, to collate and analyze such statistics with special reference to their causes, effects and occupational distribution; to make general and special studies and investigations of labor safety plans and devices of various kinds, and of their need and adaptation as relates to different classes of machinery, processes of production and undertakings of whatever nature in which labor is employed; to study occupational hazards and diseases and their prevention, and to make public the results of such investigations from time to time.

The bill also provides for the establishment of museums in which shall be exhibited approved devices for the safeguarding of machinery, protection of employes from injury, lessening of dangerous conditions, and methods of lessening, preventing and controlling industrial diseases. In addition to the museum there shall be established a laboratory wherein may be tested the relative efficiency of guards or other devices for the protection of machinery calculated to safeguard the employe or the general public from injury or industrial disease.

"The purpose of my resolution is purely educational," declared Congressman Rathbone. "It merely provides for the federal government to set an example to the states and to other lands in conserving life, limb and health. The terrible toll of industry and the frightful waste because of occupational diseases must eventually shock the public conscience.

"We talk of the ravages of war, but we have yet to realize the deaths, the sufferings and the loss of actual and potential wealth to study on a national field. Authorities on this subject declare that industrial fatalities and accidents can be reduced to a negligible quantity. The federal government must set an example to check this fearful waste in our industrial forces. There is an unlimited field for economy that the American people overlook. Our man power must be conserved, and the government should lead the way by indicating the best methods."

ANTI-LYNCHING BILL KILLED BY SENATORS

Washington, May 22.—The federal lynching bill, introduced in the senate by Mr. McKinley of Illinois and in the house by Mr. Dyer of Missouri, is killed for this session. In an executive session the Senate Judiciary Committee voted against a favorable report.

The bill would give federal courts jurisdiction in lynching cases. Any county in which a lynching occurred would be liable to a fine of $10,000, the money to be donated to the family of the victim.

Opponents of the bill insist this is an invasion of states' rights, and the beginning of federal interference in cases that are purely state affairs. It is claimed that a favorable report would start a record filibuster in the senate. The bill has twice passed the house.

CHARGES SALE OF JOBS TO FEDERAL EMPLOYES

Washington, May 22.—A resolution introduced by Senator Couzens provides for an investigation of charges that members of congress and political organizations extort money from federal employes in return for appointments.

Accusations have been made, said Senator Couzens, that postmasters have been appointed in disregard of civil service requirements. Specific charges in the committee would be to ascertain "if federal employes have been or are being solicited for contributions by members of congress and by political organizations."

SLATE WORKERS WIN

Washington, May 22.—Slate workers in Granville, May 22.—Organized street in Granville, Ohio, and Poultney, Vt., have won their demands, the latter after a strike of 26 weeks' duration. More than 600 men are benefited. The operators refused to consider the demands, but the workers' solidarity compelled them to change their viewpoint.

LARGE UNION BENEFITS

Chicago, May 22.—Organized street car men in this city received $215,637.07 in benefits last year. This included funeral, disability and old age benefits and collections for sick members.

CONVICT LEASE PLAN RECALLS 'HELL SHIPS'

Birmingham, Ala., May 22.—Tales that equal the convict vessels to Australia and the prison "hell ships" of long ago, were told the grand jury that is investigating conditions at the Flat Top convict mines.

Prisoners were forced to stand in water while mining coal. Their feet would swell and crack and infection set in. Numerous stories have been told of men forced to dig coal when they were hardly able to stand. In a few cases these unfortunates implored others to put them out of their misery by killing them.

Broken jaws and bruised bodies of convicts were discovered by the jurors. The prison authorities assigned this work to Cecil Houston, a trusty serving a life term for murder. He is the leading "straw boss" at the mines and is known as the "strong man" and "killer."

The grand jury will investigate the Banner mines, where a mutiny occurred recently when prisoners barricaded themselves and hurled sticks of dynamite at overseers.

Charges are to be investigated that large sums of money have been embezzled from the state through the leasing of convicts to contractors. The plan are hopeful that before the probe is concluded Alabama citizens will be convinced that this system is not only morally and socially wrong, but it is bad business.

MORE CHILDREN EMPLOYED

Chicago, May 22.—Miss Gertrude Stoetzel, state factory inspector informed Municipal Judge McCarthy that children are more generally employed in this city than at any time in the last 14 years.

CONVICT LEASE SYSTEM DENOUNCED BY WORKERS

Nashville, Tenn., May 22.—Governor Peay's attempt to smooth over the evils of the convict lease system in this state was sharply answered at a meeting of trade unionists and railroad brotherhood employes.

Addressing the 43rd convention of Labor convention, the governor said that "the convict-labor question in Tennessee has been settled."

In replying to the governor, Chairman Reid said:

"The only people I know of in Tennessee, or any state, who are satisfied with the convict lease system are the men who are making money out of the blood and sweat of these unfortunates. Organized labor does not intend to cease its efforts until that iniquity is wiped from the social system of Tennessee."

The convention, declared in favor of a law which will allow a prisoner the average wage of free labor for work performed, the expense of maintaining the prisoner to be deducted from the wage and the balance to go to his dependents.

"PACKED" PROBERS TO STUDY LABOR LAW

Providence, R. I., May 22.—The secretary of the commission to investigate lawmakers's compensation is using stationary of the anti-union Employers' Association in letters to trade unionists. He is also secretary of the employers' organization.

Trade unionists are suspicious of the commission. They charge that its sole purpose is to withdraw grievances against the act.

SUNDAY BARBERING IS NOT NECESSARY

Albany, N. Y., May 22.—Governor Smith has signed the bill forbidding Sunday barbering in New York City and Saratoga Springs. For more than 30 years barbering on Sunday has been prohibited in all parts of the state but these two cities.

"In view of this," said the governor, "it is difficult to imagine that it is a work of necessity. If it is necessary in New York and Saratoga Springs, it should also be necessary in Albany, Binghamton or anywhere else."